

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 18-0850V

Filed: July 26, 2019

UNPUBLISHED

MICHELLE DANIELS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;  
Influenza (Flu) Vaccine; Guillain-  
Barre Syndrome (GBS)

*John Robert Howie, Howie Law, PC, Dallas, TX, for petitioner.*

*Mollie Danielle Gorney, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

### **DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES<sup>1</sup>**

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On June 14, 2018, petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*,<sup>2</sup> (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) caused by the influenza vaccination she received on October 4, 2017.<sup>3</sup> Petition at 1, ¶¶ 1, 32. She asserts that her injury meets the definition of a Table Injury, GBS after receipt of the influenza vaccination. *Id.* at ¶ 32; see 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a)(XIV)(D). The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On May 21, 2019, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding petitioner entitled to compensation for her GBS. On July 26, 2019, respondent filed a proffer on award of

<sup>1</sup> The undersigned intends to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website. **This means the decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned will redact such material from public access. Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, undersigned is required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services).

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755.

<sup>3</sup> Petitioner also received the tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis (“Tdap”) vaccination on October 4, 2017. Petition at ¶ 1; see Exhibit 2.

compensation ("Proffer") indicating petitioner should be awarded \$107,222.40, representing \$100,000.00 for petitioner's pain and suffering and \$7,222.40 for petitioner's actual unreimbursable expenses. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, respondent represented that petitioner agrees with the proffered award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **the undersigned awards petitioner a lump sum payment of \$107,222.40, representing \$100,000.00 for petitioner's pain and suffering and \$7,222.40 for petitioner's actual unreimbursable expenses in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Michelle Daniels.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.<sup>4</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**  
Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master

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<sup>4</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.



Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH H. HUNT  
Assistant Attorney General

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO  
Acting Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

CATHARINE E. REEVES  
Deputy Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

GABRIELLE FIELDING  
Assistant Director  
Torts Branch, Civil Division

/s/ Mollie D. Gorney  
Mollie D. Gorney  
Trial Attorney  
Torts Branch, Civil Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 146  
Benjamin Franklin Station  
Washington D.C. 20044-0146  
Tel: (202) 616- 4029  
mollie.d.gorney@usdoj.gov

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